



Janesville United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 358
424 Sycamore Street
Janesville, IA 50647

Phone: (319) 987-2596
Email: janesvilleumc@gmail.com
<http://janesvilleunitedmethodistchurch.weebly.com>

Rev. Laurie L Riley, pastor

May 2023 Newsletter

Janesville United Methodist Church

Highlights in this issue:

A Note from the Pastor	page 2
May Volunteers and Celebrations	page 3
2023 Grants Awarded	page 3
2023 Outreach Grant Guidelines	page 4
Shepherds and Prayer Requests	page 5
Missions News.	page 5
United Women in Faith News	page 6
Craft Corner & VBS News	page 7
Palm Sunday Pictures	page 8
Agape Supper Pictures.	page 9
Easter Sunday Pictures	page 10

Office Hours

Mondays thru Thursdays
7:30 am - 10:30 am



MAY BREAKFAST

The ladies of the UMW are hosting a May Breakfast at **9:30 am** on **Thursday, May 4** in Fellowship Hall.

All ladies of the church are invited to attend.

Please RSVP to Jean Eibey, Margaret Shepard, or Cindy Spencer by May 1st.



Upcoming May Events



May 4 - May Breakfast
(see details here)

May 9 - Shepherds Meeting
at 9:30 am

May 14 - Mother's Day & Blanket Sunday
(see details on page 5)
Sunday School Kids singing

May 21 - Last Day of Sunday School

May 23 - Z-Team Meeting
at 1:00 pm

May 29 - Memorial Day

We would like to honor our graduates in May. Please contact the church office with the names of any High School or College graduates to be honored.



A note from the Pastor

I was recently sitting in my back yard and when I looked up I saw flying over my head a small "V" of Snow Geese. As I saw these geese, I was reminded of a story that came across my desk a few years ago. I share it with you now as we continue to build our ministry here in the church.

It has been learned that when geese fly in "V" formation each bird flaps its wings and creates uplift for the bird immediately following and the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies the point position. When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the birds in front.

The geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. Finally, when a goose gets sick, or is wounded and falls out of formation, two geese fall out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. Then they stay with the goose until the goose is either able to fly or it dies and then they launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up with their own group.

What a lesson this is for us in the church for it is when we share a common direction that we get where we are wanting to go quicker and easier. It has also been discovered that it pays for people to take turns doing hard jobs, that way no one person feels the entire load.

So, if we use the sense of a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed the same way we are going. We will offer words of encouragement and words of gratitude to one another for these go a long way in supporting those doing the work.

So just as the geese stand by each other when one is sick or injured, we can stand by each other like they do. As we continue in our ministry together let us keep in mind the message of the goose and continue to build a strong church so that together we can help others find the Christ that lives in each of us.

See you in worship,
Pastor Laurie

Volunteers for May

Liturgists in May

May 7
Brad Ruth

May 14
Virginia Robinson

May 21
Margaret Shepard

May 28
Gary Shaulis

Ushers in May

May 5
Brad Ruth

May 14
Dick & Karen Funk

May 21
Dave Beenblossom

May 28
Gary Shaulis



May Birthdays

Ally Eibey	5/1
Kiley Shepherd	5/2
Rachel Knapp	5/3
Jeff Baker	5/4
Kendyl Sorge	5/6
Megan (Borglum) Hartwig	5/8
Joan Ackerson	5/9
Dick Funk	5/9
Barb Hamlyn	5/9
Jim Stensland	5/9
Alec Amosson	5/9
Teague Lafrentz	5/10
Mike Wienhold	5/11
Janeen Hubbell	5/12
Sadie Baldwin	5/13
Robert James Baldwin	5/16
Callie (Angove) Kramer	5/17
Dennis Dilley	5/18
Cody Nielsen	5/18
Emily (Ruth) Hogle	5/18
Adam Conradi	5/19
Amelia Manning	5/20
Jack Fisher	5/21
Emma VerSteege	5/21
Mary VerSteege	5/21
Rita Ruth	5/22
McKayla Hinz	5/22
Katlyn Haan	5/22
Tawnya Cary	5/23
Marilyn Miller	5/24
Keith Reid	5/27
Nikki Shook	5/27
Ty Lafrentz	5/27
Dave Peters	5/28
Rachael Coffman	5/29
Helen Dettmer	5/30
Lolita Huber	5/31

2023 Grants Awarded

<u>Who Requested - what requested for</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>
Z-Team - Community Service and Outreach - Special Celebrations for Graduates & Confirmands, Community Outreach, etc.	2,000.16
Missions - To cover shortfall for shipping costs for kits	250.00
UMW/Missions - To support local missions	220.00
Shepherds - Community Service - purchase cards, stamps and other items for homebound individuals	200.00
Sunday School - Community Service & Outreach - gifts for needy children	300.00
Youth Group - Community Service and Outreach - for Youth	500.00
VBS - Community Service and Outreach - VBS Program	350.00

Please see next page for guidelines for Z-Team Outreach Funds for 2023.

May Anniversaries

Bryan & Gina Destival	5/8
Chris & Angela Robinson	5/11
Myron & Janet Destival	5/24
Jim & Emily Stensland	5/27
Todd & Elizabeth Foelske	5/28



2023 Guidelines for Z-Team Outreach Funds

As our world changes, so must we as individuals. This is true in the life of the church as well. Changes have resulted in some of our church's long-time fundraisers and activities no longer happening for a variety of reasons.

To assist with overcoming some of the challenges, the Administrative Council made the following change as a means of providing all church committees, organizations, or groups of individuals the financial ability to hold fundraisers or outreach activities and have access to funds to meet the input or start-up costs.

The Z-Team has been charged with the responsibility of administering "Outreach Funds" and was awarded grant money for this purpose. These funds are available for use by ALL church committees, organizations, or groups of individuals.

Any church committee, organization, or group of individuals may bring their plan to the Z-Team (give it to Barb in the office) to request start-up funds. The plan should include the date of the activity, who is leading the activity, and the amount of funds requested.

It is not the Z-team's responsibility to approve, police or organize the activities; they will simply monitor funds availability. If the activity is intended as a fundraiser or free-will donation event, once the activity is complete, the requesting church committee, organization, or group of individuals will return to the "Outreach Funds" the amount received in start-up funds. What to do with the remaining money is up to the committee, organization, or group of individuals sponsoring the activity.

Activities/programs not intended as fundraisers or free-will donation events will not be required to refund start-up "Outreach Funds". Funds for future activities may be requested, provided the activity will be held prior to the next February 28th.

Any remaining "Outreach Funds" grant money as of February 28th will be returned to the PEC Committee, as required by the Endowment grant regulations, and will be added to that year's grant funds to be awarded by the PEC Committee. The Z-Team must submit a grant application to be considered by the PEC Committee to replenish "Outreach Funds" for use the following year.

This concept is new and will, hopefully, provide a means for church committees, organizations, or individuals to continue offering outreach opportunities without placing a financial hardship on members of the committees, organizations, or individuals. The success of this model will be evaluated by the Administrative Council at year's end and appropriate modifications made if deemed necessary. Please address all questions or concerns regarding this procedure to the Z-Team or Administrative Council.



Please pray for our Shepherds and those who are served by them:

Flo Shepard
Marlys Cook
De & Carol Dix
Georgia Eibey
Marilyn Taylor
Harriet Schares
Lorraine Hallberg
Lolita Huber
Lavonne Dorman
Char Brickman

Please keep them in your prayers:

Dave Beenblossom
Tom Brickman
Esther Folkerds
Dan & Wendy Brace
Evelyn Turner

Pastor Laurie is recuperating from knee surgery. We are unsure how long she will need to be gone before she returns to work. Please pray for her healing process and recovery.

Missions

FOOD BANK

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Food Bank and Easter fundraisers. We collected \$565 for the Food Bank. This money was donated and qualified for the Food Bank's \$1 for \$1 matching fundraiser, for a total donation of **\$1,130.00**.

BLANKETS

Mother's Day (May 14th) is our annual Blanket Sunday fundraiser. Warm, sturdy blankets are purchased with our donations and delivered by UMCOR during disaster relief. Please make your check payable to the church and write "blankets" in the memo area. Also, fill out a form if you wish to donate in memory or in honor someone and include it with your check.



formerly known as UMW

The April UMW meeting was held on Thursday, April 6 at 1:00 PM in Court Chapel with ten members present.

Members recited the Purpose of the United Women in Faith. Prayer concerns were shared for church members and friends.

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. There was no correspondence.

There were no officer reports. 8-10 cards were sent to church members.

Circle Reports were given. Mary Deborah Circle met at the church for a fun day. Naomi Circle met after pie making and discussed cooking taco meat for the Janesville Days Committee fundraiser meals. Rebecca Circle met at church to clean and chop vegetables for the Beef Stew Dinner. They appreciated the extra help from Naomi Circle members.

The Piecemakers displayed orca whale and dolphin throw which is currently being hand quilted. They are starting to make Love Quilts for Ingathering as their next project. There are still craft items and cookbooks for sale. The monthly newsletter is now featuring a "Craft Corner" with photos of different items for sale.

A motion carried to use the memorial from the Lois Boeck family to purchase a 90 cup coffee pot and a good quality knife sharpener and to accept the donation of a 30 cup coffeemaker from a church family.

The Irish Beef Stew Dinner was discussed. There was great help but attendance was disappointing due to the weather and the Hawkeye Game.

The PEC grants have been awarded. UMW will receive \$220 toward year end donations to area organizations. Missions will receive \$250 which should cover most if not all the shipping and extra toiletry costs.

The Janesville Days Committee has asked if our unit would help by making 100 cookies for the upcoming fundraiser meals. Since our unit is already cooking the meat and chopping onions and tomatoes, a motion carried to decline providing cookies. Volunteers were arranged for the upcoming rib eye and taco fundraiser food prep.

Thank Offerings needs to be turned in to the UMW treasurer by the end of May.

For Ingathering, prayer coloring sheets for the student kits and prayer cards for the other kits have been printed. There is a supply in the church office and in the UMW box.

A motion carried to contact the Trustees about hiring a person to deep clean the church kitchen and pay for it out of the general fund.

May Breakfast was discussed. It will be May 4th at 9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. We will invite all women of the church. Our district shepherdess about providing the devotions. Our town librarian about doing a program about the new library location and services. Members volunteered for menu planning, shopping, and decorations.

If anyone has ideas for programs let Cindy know. It was suggested to ask Linda McCann to come back and speak about another one of her books.

Naomi Circle provided devotions about Peacemakers and Justice Seekers. which included handmade puzzles for each member to put together with pieces pertaining to Peace and Justice. The Response Moment about a church in Texas that has baked pies for a fundraiser.



Craft Corner
(formerly known as “Quilt of the Month”)

This month’s craft offering is
SCRUBBERS!

These are so popular - you can use them
anywhere you need a little extra “scrub”...
dishes, cars, counter tops, the
uses are endless!

They are **\$1.50 each**
in a variety of colors
(round or flat - you can choose)

They make great gifts!
(Mother’s Day is coming)!

Join us for VBS 2023!

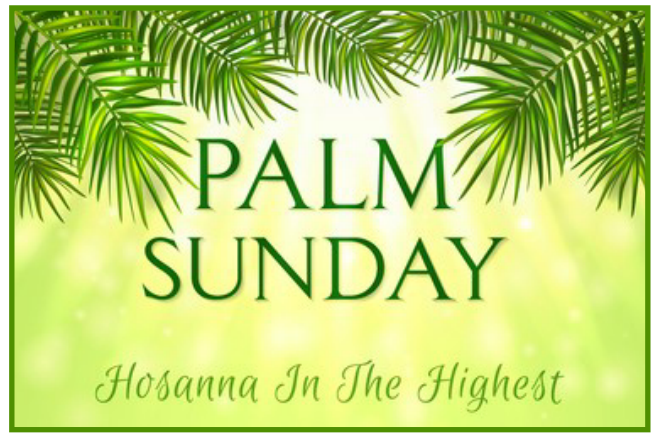
Sunday July, 16 -
Wednesday July, 19
5:30-7:30 pm each night

You can register at:
[https://www.myvbs.org/
JanesvilleUMC/](https://www.myvbs.org/JanesvilleUMC/)



We began Holy Week with a Palm Sunday Celebration, which included the Sunday School kids waving palms and singing.

Here are a few pictures.



**Pastor Laurie led us
in an Agape Supper and
Good Friday Worship.**

Here are some pictures.



Easter - He is Risen!

We celebrated Easter with a breakfast, hosted by the Sunday School teachers and parents; an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids, provided by Pastor Laurie; and a live flower Resurrection Cross, with flowers donated by various individuals.

Words cannot express how thankful we are to EVERYONE for your donations, your time, and your endless dedication to our church!!!

Here are just a few pictures from the day!

